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General Assembly
Fifty-third session

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General Committee

Summary record of the 5th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 12 February 1999 at 9.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Opertti (President of the General Assembly) ..... (Uruguay)

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The meeting was called to order at 9.50 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda of the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly and allocation of items (*continued*)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Chile (A/53/236)

1. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to consider a request by Chile for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Observer status for the Customs Cooperation Council in the General Assembly", contained in document A/53/236. The representative of Chile had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

2. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Larrain (Chile) took a place at the Committee table.*

3. **Mr. Larrain** (Chile) said that an explanatory memorandum in document A/53/236 provided the background to his delegation's request, namely, the resolution adopted by the Council of the Customs Cooperation Council (World Customs Organization) at its eighteenth session expressing the wish to obtain observer status for the organization in the General Assembly. His delegation trusted that the General Committee would make the necessary recommendations for the item to be considered by the General Assembly in plenary meeting.

4. **Mr. Fedotov** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation supported the Chilean delegation's request.

5. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.*

6. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

The meeting rose at 9.55 a.m.